

New Federal Website and SAMHSA's *Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health* Announced—June 3, 2013

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius has announced the launch of MentalHealth.gov as an online resource for people looking for information about mental health. This website provides information about the signs of mental illness, how individuals can seek help, and how communities can host conversations about mental health. The website also features videos from a number of individuals sharing their stories about mental illness, recovery, and hope.

SAMHSA will release a *Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health* to support communities interested in holding discussions about mental health using consistent information and approaches. The Toolkit has three parts: an "Information Brief," a "Discussion Guide" and an "Organizing Guide." These components will help communities and individuals start a conversation about mental health and help identify innovative and creative actions to meet the mental health needs of our Nation.

Through MentalHealth.gov and SAMHSA's *Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health*, we can all work together to provide youth and adults accurate information about the prevention and treatment of mental health conditions, coupled with open spaces to tell their stories, ask for help, share their successes, and support one another. These conversations will also give us a venue to highlight the importance of recovery, support those in recovery, and offer opportunities for everyone to see that recovery is possible.

The entire SAMHSA *Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health* will be available soon via the SAMHSA website, the SAMHSA Store, and MentalHealth.gov. The [Information Brief](#) section of the Toolkit is available for print and electronic download **today, June 3, 2013**, on the SAMHSA Store and at www.mentalhealth.gov/talk/community-conversation/index.html.